

THE TELEGRAM-HERALD.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

M. H. FORD DECLINES

To Hold Four Joint Debates With C. W. Watkins.

THEY PROBABLY WILL NOT MEET

Propositions Made by Both Sides—Chairman Davis, Notwithstanding Ford's Challenge, Says the Only Time that the Debate Can Be Had is Oct. 30.

M. H. Ford declined the proposition made by C. W. Watkins, to hold four joint debates in the different counties in this district, as the following communication from Mr. Ford will show:

Hon. C. W. Watkins:

DEAR SIR: I have read your open letter to me as published in the TELEGRAM-HERALD, in which you suggest a series of four joint debates between yourself and myself, on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings, October 28, 29, 30 and 31.

I have already made engagements to speak each evening this week, and also nearly every afternoon, at different places in the district, and all the arrangements for the meetings have been perfected.

In order for me to accept your invitation, it would be necessary for me to cancel seven meetings where I am now advertised to speak. This I cannot do. I am willing, however, to set aside one evening for that purpose.

If you will meet me at Hartman's Hall on Thursday evening, October 30, I shall be pleased to debate with you the political issues. As I shall be out of town on Monday, you will please communicate with the chairman of the Democratic Congressional committee, who is authorized to make all necessary arrangements.

Yours truly,

M. H. Ford.

Mr. Watkins sent the following answer to Mr. Ford through Geo. N. Davis:

Hon. C. W. Ford, City.

DEAR SIR:—Your letter to me of this date declining to discuss the political issues jointly with me, once in each of the four counties of this Congressional district, has been handed me by the TELEGRAM-HERALD. In your letter to Mr. M. Adele Hazlett, you expressed a willingness to hold a joint discussion with me any time prior to Nov. 1. It occurred to me it would be more profitable, and come nearer being a discussion, if the people of the different counties in this district had an opportunity to hear a presentation of the principles represented by each of us. They might be better able to judge of the merits of the two parties. You declined to meet me in these joint debates, but say that you will meet me for one discussion at Hartman's hall Thursday evening, Oct. 30th. In your letter before referred to, you say "I am ready to meet him (Watkins) at any time or place prior to Nov. 1st." In expressing a willingness to hold several joint debates with you, I indicated that one of them should be held at Hartman's hall, Tuesday evening, October 28th. Regretting your declination to meet me in four joint debates, but wishing to accommodate you as nearly as possible, I will adhere to the "time and place" named by me for one debate, Hartman's hall, Tuesday evening, Oct. 28th, and I have so notified Mr. Geo. N. Davis, chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee. Awaiting your pleasure, I am

Yours truly,

C. W. Watkins.

George N. Davis, Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee, said last night that he did not think Mr. Ford would accept this last proposition as it would conflict with other engagements. He could not speak authoritatively though until he saw Mr. Ford this morning.

The action seems to the unbiased mind somewhat strange, in view of Mr. Ford's communication to Mrs. Hazlett in which he expresses himself as willing to meet Mr. Watkins "any time or place prior to Nov. 1." The communication is reproduced below:

Mrs. M. Adele Hazlett:

MADAM:—Upon my return to the city late last evening, I noticed in the afternoon papers your invitation to me to discuss with you the political issues.

It is a matter of some surprise to me that the Republican County Committee should put you forward as their representative in a proposed joint debate, and thus ignore their candidate for Congress.

If the Republican County Committee will substitute in your place Hon. Chas. W. Watkins, who is occupying an equally responsible position before the public today with myself, I am ready to meet him at any time or place, prior to November 1.

Yours truly,

MELBOURNE H. FORD.

COLD-BLOODED MURDER.

A Drunken Gambler Shoots an Ex-Alderman in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Oct. 26.—Ex-Alderman Wm. P. Whelan was fatally shot at an early hour this morning, by Faro Dealer Hathaway. Between 4 and 4:30 o'clock this morning Ex-Alderman Whelan sat down to take an early breakfast with Matt. Hogan, in the latter's restaurant and saloon, No. 326 State-st. They had just begun to eat when a gambler named George H. Hathaway came stalking through the room, and stopped immediately in front of the table at which Whelan and Hogan were seated. Hathaway, who was intoxicated, made some remark apparently offensive to Whelan, who sprang to his feet and advanced. Hathaway pulled a heavy 44-calibre revolver, and fired, the ball going through Whelan's left groin, out of his back, and imbedding itself in the wall. Whelan was taken to Michael Reese's hospital, where he died at 3:15 this afternoon. At a late hour this afternoon Hathaway was arrested by Officers Trehera and McDonnell and lodged in the central station.

MATILDA JOSLYN GAGE.

A Reminiscence Letter from Little Deveraux Blake.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23.—I wish here to say a few words of a woman who, although one of the pioneers of the woman's suffrage movement, is still in the fullness of her powers and ability. Matilda Joslyn Gage was a brown haired woman, the youngest of all the speakers, at a convention in the early fifties. When I first met her in 1870 her abundant locks were almost white, but she still had and has today a youthful, alert figure.

She is the thinker and historian of our cause, all her writings being characterized by profound scholarship and deep thought.

Her father, Dr. Joslyn, was widely known in central New York as a capable physician and enthusiastic reformer. From him she received every advantage of education. She early married Henry D. Gage, a successful merchant, and has had her home for many years in Fayetteville, near Syracuse. She has raised a family of children, but has found time always to pursue her studies and to aid the cause of woman's suffrage.

A deep seated, almost fierce, love of freedom is one of her characteristics. No wonder she passionately espoused the cause of the enfranchisement of her sex. She especially excels in terse epigrams, and from her pen have come most of the mottoes which have adorned letter heads, envelopes, banners, etc. One of her favorite utterances, which has been widely quoted without credit to her, expresses her dominant thought:

"There is a word which is dearer than mother, home or heaven, and that word is liberty!"

Her contributions to the literature of the cause have been of great value. She was one of the editors of the "Woman Suffrage History," and her chapter "Woman, Church and State" is one of the ablest in the three volumes. It is a masterly arraignment of the priesthood for the injustice inflicted upon women through the centuries.

Mrs. Gage was for many years president of the New York State Woman Suffrage association. She has organized campaigns and delivered lectures. She has addressed legislative committees at Albany and congressional committees at Washington, and was active in several political campaigns.

Last winter she founded the Woman's National Liberal league, which was established at a large convention held at Washington in February. She is an excellent presiding officer, and her speeches are worthy of the closest attention from their depth of thought.

Orser Heirs.

A much larger number met last Saturday evening at the rooms of Dr. M. C. Orser, Wonderly block, to consider the interests of the Orser heirs. Some committees made important reports and the case appears more and more hopeful. The committee adjourned to meet at Wonderly block next Friday, 7:00 p.m.

A Runaway.

Frank Van Driele and lady were thrown out of a buggy at the corner of Crescent-ave. and Bostwick-st., last night, but neither were seriously injured. The buggy however was almost split into kindling wood. The horse becoming frightened was unmanageable and ran away.

Registration days, October 30-31 and November 1. You can't vote this fall unless you re-register.

NEW ERA OF THINGS

The Old Doctrines Being Discarded By Divines.

CREATING THE WORLD ANEW

Rev. G. N. Smith Preacher at the New Church. After an Absence of Nearly 20 Years, There is Evidence of the Lord's Near Presence.

Rev. G. N. Smith preached the sermon at the New Church, corner of Lyon and Division-sts., last night, to an appreciative audience. The reverend gentleman is well known by the older residents of Grand Rapids. He was pastor of the New Church from 1859 to 1867. Since then he has been doing missionary work in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The text last evening was taken from Isaiah, 65:17: "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind." He commenced by saying that the Lord is now fulfilling His promise here given. He is most truly, yes, even in a sense most literally, creating the world anew, as there is almost as much a renewal of the physical as of the mental and spiritual plane.

"It is coming in a way very different from that which has been expected, he continued. It is not in the way of the great conflagration that has for so long been looked for, not in the crash of the world, but in a way much more adapted to accomplish the promised object, rendering the earth better fitted for the birthplace and nurture of human and immortal souls."

He said the world was becoming new in the new knowledge and arts of life, in the new and better understanding of the laws and order of nature, and a new facility in the use of her various resources for human good. This he said is most truly and emphatically a new age in all matters of science and art. It has revolutionized the whole physical world in this respect. It has brought out of the deepest darkness and wildest chaos of ignorance and superstition, a clear and true knowledge of science in all matters of nature's operations. These sciences, which are justly the boast of age, he explained are all new, all the gifts of the age, to the world. A full score of them have grown up within the century, and they have grown from absolutely no knowledge, or else from the most false and wild ideas of the subjects which they concern. He said that what is now the noble science and art of chemistry, was only lately the wild fancies of the alchemists. What is now the excellent and beneficent science and art as the physician, was lately a system of black art, employing charms and amulets to drive away evil spirits. What is now the profound and rational science of geology was lately the absurd fancies of literalists. And so the world over where lately irrationalisms and absurd conjectures of ignorant minds were the rule, while now true and rational knowledge and practical uses of nature's facts and forces for the purposes of life. He said the time was not far distant, and in many cases now, when the poorest peasant may be a truer practical philosopher and may have a truer knowledge of the facts and principles of the world he is in than the very princes of the old philosophers once had. He also spoke of how the people were misled as to the earth being flat in olden days and how they thought the planets moved around the world.

"How long will a theology exist that only goes skulking around in old dusty books, and denying its own existence?" he continued. "Heaven be thanked, not long." A prominent divine of the Methodist church, in speaking of the clause of the Athenian creed which says: "That we worship one God in trinity and trinity in unity, neither confounding the persons, nor dividing the substance," he adds 'no man has a right to put such scholastic obstructions in the way of souls.' No one can doubt who knows what the old doctrine of the atonement was, as revamped by Anselm, by putting the Father in place of the devil, as the enemy of man, from whose hand Christ must redeem them. This was exactly what was meant when these words were put into the eighth book of common prayer, and thence copied into the Methodist Discipline. It is refreshing to see the leaders of that denomination denouncing what was lately their own doctrine, and their constituency sustaining them as most sound and orthodox teaching. Similar cases from the leaders of other Evangelical churches show that the tendency is general to keep hidden the remains of the tritheistic dogmas that came down from the middle ages. Here is another

case from a popular leader. He says: "After you have cried out, faith alone, I find 'Magdalen' much forgiven because she loved much." And yet in the books of that church, and all that Evangelical churches stand as boldly as ever the statement that we are justified by faith only. We find the same change going on in regard to the less central and more practical points of doctrine.

The speaker quoted several other divines, who were, he said, preaching a new doctrine and discarding the old.

"What is the power that is causing all these changes?" he said. Why, the power of the Lord's new and nearer presence in his second coming to build up new heavens and new earth, to preserve His Church, to bring down Jerusalem, in place of the dead and crumbling old one, to make all things new and in readiness for the descent of heavenly truth and life among men."

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THE TARIFF IN FRANCE.

Two Ex-Ministers of Commerce Not in Favor of Retaliation.

PARIS, Oct. 26.—M. Lockroy and Pierre Le Grand, both of whom have held the office of minister of commerce, have been interviewed in regard to the course to be pursued by France in consequence of the passage of the McKinley tariff bill. They are of the opinion that France should take no part whatever in any economic struggle arising from the passage of that measure. They also think that an amicable understanding between France and the United States on all the commercial questions on which they now differ is probable, and that French commerce has suffered less from the enactment of the McKinley bill than have British and German trade.

The Figaro says that reprisals against the United States could easily be made with regard to American insurance companies doing a business in France, amounting annually to 155,000,000 francs. It would be sufficient to make them amenable to the French law, which they now transgress daily.

In order to vote everybody must re-register Oct. 30-31 and Nov. 1.

Buy Potatoes Now.

Potatoes in Sparta are selling at 65 cents per bushel in the field, and thousands of bushels are being shipped out of the country and to other States. Great quantities are going down in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, where the crops were not up to the average yield. Many bushels are being shipped west, and into Canada, where there has been scarcely any raised this season. Farmers are of the opinion that the price of potatoes will not be any lower, and that probably they will be quite a bit higher this winter than they are now. As a reason for this aside from the large shipments being made, it is said that not a little of the crop in this State has been dug too early, and consequently the potatoes are rotting already. Again the late potatoes have, in a great measure, failed to get their full growth, and will not last long.

Registration days, October 30-31 and November 1. You can't vote this fall unless you re-register.

At Ames M. E. Church.

Owing to the continued absence of the pastor, Rev. E. H. King, the pulpit was again filled by Rev. Dr. John Graham. The morning session was taken up by communion service, and in the evening he preached from the text, 2d Corinthians, 1st chapter and 23d verse: "For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom," the sum and substance of his theme being the plainness and ease of conception of the Bible. Rev. King will return on Wednesday, and will occupy the pulpit next Sabbath.

In order to vote everybody must re-register Oct. 30-31 and Nov. 1.

Found at Last.

SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM-HERALD. CEDAR SPRINGS, Mich., Oct. 26.—Charles Gross, who mysteriously disappeared September 2, was found today by Samuel Allen, in the creek, two miles west of the town. He evidently fell in and was drowned. The body is not decomposed. Large parties have searched for weeks and failed to find the body. It was found under a log by chance.

Everybody must re-register if they want to vote this fall.

HALF A MILLION

The Most Disastrous Conflagration at Mobile Since 1864.

A TWENTY MILE BREEZE BLOWING

The Fire Beginning in a Shingle Mill is Not Got Under Control Until It Has Destroyed \$200,000 Worth of Property—No Casualties.

MOBILE, Ala., Oct. 26.—A fire began about 12:40 o'clock this afternoon, and resulted in the most disastrous conflagration that Mobile has had since the war. The fire began in a shingle mill and factory near the river front just outside the northern boundary of the city limits. A strong wind from the northwest, perhaps a twenty-mile breeze, was blowing, and the flames were soon communicated to the cotton warehouses which line the river front from Bearegard-st., the northern boundary, southward six blocks, and from the river front westward to Magnolia-st., three blocks. From the shingle mill to Goodman's warehouse on the block bounded by Front, Bearegard, Water and Liscomb-sts., the distance is about 600 yards, and almost as soon as the smoke was seen issuing from the roof the cotton blazed up. In Goodman's there was stored about 900 bales of cotton, and sparks from this cotton carried by the wind next communicated the flames to Brown's warehouse, on Liscomb and Water-sts., and running back to Magnolia-st., to the southwest, to the Mobile oil mill, which was next south on the east side of Front-st., in front of the Mobile & Birmingham railroad company, which fronted on Water, from Bearegard to Liscomb-sts. A large amount of cotton was closely packed in the warehouses and presses. The inflammable character of material which fed the flames and made the fire an intensely hot one and the high wind caused it to spread so rapidly that it was impossible for the fire department to do more than stand idly by and see it burn. At this writing the property destroyed is 5500 bales of cotton, three steamers, one tugboat, eleven freight cars, grain launch, belonging to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad company; five empty box cars of the Mobile and Birmingham road; two wood and coal yards, three cotton compressors, and eight cotton warehouses. The Mobile Phosphate houses, Chemical works, Gage Lyons' ice factory and numerous small business houses in the locality which cannot be gathered tonight.

So far there has been no casualty reported. The wind died away about 5 p. m., and the fire department seem now to have the fire under control. When the ammonia tank in the ice factory exploded, it seemed to stay the progress of the flames to the southward. Its estimated actual loss will exceed half a million.

KILLED ONE

And Very Seriously Injured Five Other Persons.

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, Oct. 26.—The east bound passenger train No. 6 on the Panhandle railroad about 6 o'clock this evening, ran into five persons near here. Mrs. Bluebank was killed; Miss Bluebank had a rib and her back broken; Joshua Wind's back was also broken and Mrs. Wind was hurt internally and will not live.

Everybody must re-register if they want to vote this fall.

Farewell Services.

Miss Jennie B. Hagan, who for some weeks has been giving some extraordinary examples of improvisation, and conducting the Religious Philosophical society's services at Greenwood hall, closed her course in this city last night. From here Miss Hagan will go to Washington, D. C. The hall was crowded to its utmost, over 400 people being present. As heretofore, subjects were suggested by persons in the audience, and poems thereon were immediately improvised by Miss Hagan, in the rhythm of which there were always embodied practical and spiritual applications. The course has been a most successful one, and Miss Hagan has made many warm personal friends in Grand Rapids.

The Power of the Human Eye. Who hasn't heard the time-honored tale of the tiger quailing before the human eye?

And who has failed to recognize the power of the eye to indicate the state of health? Dull, lack-lustre, dark-circled eyes show plainly the need of Paine's Celery Compound. This scientific discovery gives health, and soon the eyes become clear, bright and sparkling.

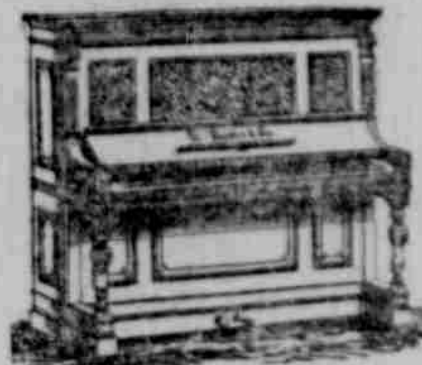
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House Cleaning Time!

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BUY ONLY THE BEST

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Place	Where you have entire confidence in their reputa- tion.	Assistance
to	Buy	Most
Buy	Where their prices are reasonable for the best quality of goods.	Necessary
Your	Where you are al- ways treated Cour- teously.	Always
Wedding	Where you are al- ways treated Cour- teously.	Important
and	Holiday	Very
Holiday	Gifts	Desirable

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THIS WEEK.

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EVER EXHIBITED UNDER ONE ROOF.

Our Prices Knock Spots Out of All Pretenders to Competition with



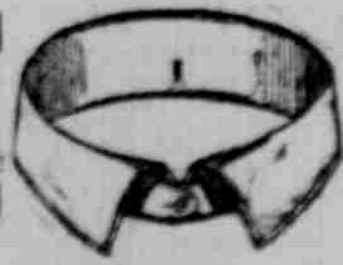
This is the Hat that made the most wonderful hit ever known in this city. But yesterday we introduced it to the gentlemen of Grand Rapids, and today it adorns the heads of hundreds. And no wonder, for a nobler, natter and neater hat was never turned out in this country. The qualities (we have three of 'em) are all fine Fur, and the binding and band are the best. Our prices are: \$1.48, \$1.08, \$2.78.

Bright and early tomorrow morning this sale will continue and, if our Hat Department won't be crowded every day this week we have very much mistaken the judgment of the gentlemen of the greatest fashionable town on earth.

HUDSON'S TOWER CLOTHING CO., Absolute One-Price Leading Clothiers,

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